THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While all the serials being telecast by electronic media may not contribute to increase in crimes, those eulogising violence do not create desirable impact on the viewers. Therefore, Programme and Advertisement Codes of Doordarshan as well as those applicable under the Cable Act, do not permit programmes, which incite violence.

Backward and tribal areas in Himachal Pradesh

*17. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the stations earmarked as backward and tribal areas in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether Government of Himachal Pradesh has demanded the uplift of the standard of life of the people living in far-flung areas of Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti districts, in their entirety, and Pangi and Bharmour (now tehsil Bharmour and sub-tehsil Holi) Sub-Divisions of Chamba District constitute the tribal areas in the State, fulfilling the minimum criterion of 50% Scheduled Tribe population concentration in a Community Development (CD) Block. These are situated in the north and north-east of the Pradesh forming a contiguous belt in the far hinterland behind high mountains. These areas have been declared as Scheduled Areas according to the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. The above areas are infrastructurally backward. In the absence of railways and water transport, roads are the only means of communication in the predominantly hilly State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) No specific proposal has been received from the State Government.